

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 TRSE-00 AID-20

EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 COME-00 AGR-20 SR-02

ORM-03 IGA-02 DRC-01 /188 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1952

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 6844

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, BE

SUBJECT: INDOCHINA DONORS' MEETING

REF: STATE 192069

1. EMBASSY EXPLAINED US POSITION ON MEETING OF INDOCHINA DONORS GROUP REFTEL TO DEDOBBELEER, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND VAN YPERSELE, COUNSELOR IN THE FINANCE MINISTRY. WE ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT BELGIAN ATTITUDES AND INTENTIONS REGARDING THIS MEETING.

2. DEDOBBELEER SAID FONOFF SUPPORTS PROPOSED MEETING AND IN GENERAL AGREES WITH US VIEWS ON FORMATION OF CONSULTATIVE SUBGROUPS FOR SOUTH VIETNAM AND LAOS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SHORTAGE OF PERSONNEL HANDLING THESE PROBLEMS IN BELGIAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO STAFF SUBGROUPS. DEDOBBELEER SAID AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME ON
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SUBGROUPS COULD ONLY BE GIVEN IN PRINCIPLE AND THAT BELGIAN

GOVERNMENT WOULD EXAMINE ITS POSITION FURTHER WHEN IT KNEW WHAT DEMANDS ON PERSONNEL SUCH SUBGROUPS WOULD REQUIRE. HE DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF NORTH VIETNAM NOR DID HE APPEAR AT THIS TIME TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT POSITIONS OF OTHER DONOR COUNTRIES. DARON, DIRECTOR IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR INDOCHINA, WAS AWAY FROM BRUSSELS AND DEDOBBELEER SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH DARON ON HIS RETURN TO LET US KNOW IF THERE WAS ANYTHING FURTHER THE FONOFF WISHED TO CONVEY.

3. ON THE POSSIBILITY OF USING THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE IBRD/IMF ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 4, TO CONSULT FURTHER ON THIS ISSUE, DEDOBBELEER SAID THAT BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVES TO IBRD/IMF MEETING WILL BE FROM FINANCE MINISTRY AND WILL NOT BE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ON FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF OCTOBER MEETING OF INDOCHINA DONORS GROUP. HE SAID, HOWEVER, HE WOULD DISCUSS FOREIGN OFFICE VIEWS ON INDOCHINA DONORS GROUP WITH BELGIAN DELEGATION TO IBRD/IMF MEETING IN AN EFFORT TO HAVE COORDINATED BELGIAN INPUT ON THIS ISSUE AT WASHINGTON MEETING.

4. DEDOBBELEER SAID NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN MADE ON WHO WOULD HEAD BELGIAN DELEGATION TO INDOCHINA DONORS GROUP BUT THAT DARON WOULD CERTAINLY BE A MEMBER OF DELEGATION. DEDOBBELEER WILL KEEP US INFORMED AS THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT POSITION DEVELOPS FURTHER.

5. VAN YPERSELE AT FINANCE MINISTRY SAID HIS MINISTRY, WITH WHOM EMBASSY SPOKE FOLLOWING MEETING WITH FONOFF, IS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EITHER THE LAOS OR THE SOUTH VIETNAM DONORS GROUP. (FINANCE MINISTRY, TOGETHER WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE BELGIAN CENTRAL BANK, WILL MAKE UP THE IBRD/IMF DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON FOR THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ANNUAL MEETINGS.) VAN YPERSELE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY INSISTS VIGOROUSLY, BELGIUM WILL ATTEND THE OCTOBER MEETING IN PARIS. VAN PERSELE NOTED THAT EVEN IF BELGIUM ATTENDS THE MEETING IN PARIS, THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT LATER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION WOULD BE AUTOMATIC (OR CONFIDENTIAL

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